

<!-- /* Font Definitions */ @font-face {font-family:Wingdings; panose-1:5 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0; mso-font-charset:2; mso-generic-font-family:auto; mso-font-pitch:variable; mso-font-signature:0 268435456 0 0 -2147483648 0;} @font-face {font-family:"Cambria Math"; panose-1:2 4 5 3 5 4 6 3 2 4; mso-font-charset:0; mso-generic-font-family:roman; mso-font-pitch:variable; mso-font-signature:-1610611985 1107304683 0 0 159 0;} /* Style Definitions */ p.MsoNormal, li.MsoNormal, div.MsoNormal {mso-style-unhide:no; mso-style-qformat:yes; mso-style-parent:""; margin:0in; margin-bottom:.0001pt; mso-pagination:widow-orphan; font-size:12.0pt; font-family:"Times New Roman","serif"; mso-fareast-font-family:"Times New Roman";} @page Section1 {size:8.5in 11.0in; margin:1.0in 1.0in 1.0in 1.0in; mso-header-margin:.5in; mso-footer-margin:.5in; mso-paper-source:0;} div.Section1 {page:Section1;} /* List Definitions */ @list l0 {mso-list-id:809328596; mso-list-type:hybrid; mso-list-template-ids:205688040 67698689 67698691 67698693 67698689 67698691 67698693 67698689 67698691 67698693;} @list l0:level1 {mso-level-number-format:bullet; mso-level-text:□; mso-level-tab-stop:.5in; mso-level-number-position:left; text-indent:-.25in; font-family:Symbol;} ol {margin-bottom:0in;} ul {margin-bottom:0in;} -->

HERSETH SANDLIN: □ BIPARTISAN FISCAL COMMISSION KEY TO TACKLING LONG-TERM DEBT

Will Recommend Way Forward to Break the Logjam, Balance Budget, Reduce Debt, Cut Spending

February 18, 2010-U.S. Rep. Stephanie Herseth Sandlin released the following statement today following the President signing an executive order to create a new, bipartisan and independent fiscal commission to recommend ways to bring the budget into balance and address the long-term fiscal threat to our nation.

"I have long been a supporter of bipartisan legislation to create a fiscal commission similar to the one being created by executive order today. It's important to remember that our country's debt problem didn't begin just recently – it is a product of years of reckless and irresponsible policies by members of both parties.

"Looking forward, this bipartisan commission, combined with statutory paygo that is once again the law of the land, represent serious tools that can help to bring our budget back into balance.

"Let me emphasize once again - our mounting national debt is a problem that was created by members of both parties, so it is essential that both parties come to the table for a bipartisan solution. I'm pleased that former Senator Alan Simpson, a Republican, and former White House Chief of Staff under Bill Clinton, Erskine Bowles, a Democrat, have accepted the President's request to lead the Commission."

The bipartisan National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform will build bipartisan consensus to put forth solutions to tackle our long-ignored fiscal challenges.

- The Commission will make recommendations that put the budget in primary balance so that we are paying for all operations and programs for the federal government (achieving deficits of about 3 percent of GDP) by 2015 and meaningfully improve the long-term fiscal outlook.
- The Commission will be comprised of 18 total members. 12 members will be appointed by Senate/House leaders (3 each by the Republican and Democratic leaders of

both chambers). All must be sitting members of Congress. The additional 6 members will be appointed by the President, with no more than 4 from the same political party.

- Furthermore, 14 out of 18 votes needed to report recommendations, and recommendations must be reported to Congress by December 1, 2010.

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